

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 COA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00

EB-11 FMC-04 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00 DLOS-07

SWF-02 L-03 PRS-01 PA-04 USIA-15 INT-08 AGR-20 EUR-25

H-03 IO-14 DRC-01 /143 W

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P 250846Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2863

INFO HARRY RIETZ, REGIONAL DIRECTOR PRIORITY

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

JUNEAU ALASKA

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PASS NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, JA, XP

SUBJECT: TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF BLUE CRAB FISHERY IN PRIBILOF AREA

1. HONDA, FIRST NORTH AMERICA DIVISION, AMERICAN AFFAIRS BUREAU, NOTIFIED REGFISHATT LATE JUNE 24 THAT JAPANESE CRAB INDUSTRY HAS AGREED TO COOPERATE WITH ONE-MONTH CLOSURE ANNOUNCED BY GOVERNOR EGAN AND WILL VOLUNTARILY TAKE MEASURES TO AVOID FISHING BLUE CRAB IN PRIBILOF VICINITY UNTIL JULY 1. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT TWO CRAB FLEETS WHICH ARE NOW OPERATING IN AREA B NEAR PRIBILOFS WILL NOT BE ABLE TO LIFT ALL OF THEIR POTS AT ONE TIME DUE TO LIMITATIONS ON POT LIFTING CAPABILITY OF FISHING VESSELS AS WELL AS LIMITATIONS ON PROCESSING CAPABILITY OF MOTHERSHIPS. ACCORDINGLY, BOTH FLEETS WILL BEGIN TO LIFT FIRST THOSE POTS SET CLOSEST TO PRIBILOF ISLANDS AND/OR THOSE POTS SET IN AREAS WHERE THERE MAY BE CONCENTRATIONS OF SOFT SHELL CRAB, GRADUALLY WORK AWAY FROM ISLANDS AND, AT SAME TIME, AVOID SETTING GEAR IN LOCALITIES WHERE SOFT SHELL SITUATION

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MAY OCCUR.

2. HONDA STRESSED (AND LATER AFFIRMED BY FISHERIES AGENCY) THAT JAPANESE INDUSTRY'S WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE SHOULD NOT BE CONSTRUED TO MEAN THAT JAPANESE FISHERMEN WERE TAKING SOFT SHELL CRAB. ON CONTRARY, HE CLAIMED JAPANESE FISHERMEN ARE TAKING ALMOST NO SOFT SHELL CRABS..HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF CLOSURE ANNOUNCED BY GOVERNOR EGAN AND CONCERN EXPRESSED BY STATE OF ALASKA OVER CONDITION OF CRABS, JAPANESE INDUSTRY WAS PREPARED TO COOPERATE TO EXTENT POSSIBLE.

3. FISHERIES AGENCY INFORMED REFFISHATT THAT INSTRUCTIONS TO OBSERVE VOLUNTARY MEASURES SENT TO FLEET JUNE 24 THROUGH COMPANY REPRESENTATIVES.

4. ACCORDING TO FISHERIES AGENCY, CRAB MOTHERSHIP KEIKO MARU LAST REPORTED TO BE FISHING ABOUT 35 MILES EAST OF ST. GEORGE ISLAND (5630N-16820W) AND KOYO MARU 15 MILES WEST OF ST. GEORGE (5631N-17018W).
SHOESMITH

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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